



The **WORD**
of the
Church of the Good Shepherd
United Methodist

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October 1, 2014

Worship Schedule for
The Church of the Good Shepherd
Sunday, October 5, 2014
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
Worship at 8:00 a.m. in the Chapel.
Worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.
The Gospel Lesson is Matthew 21:33-46
The Witness is "What's This Foolishness!?"
Associate Pastor Joshua Clough, Preaching

8:00 a.m. – Worship in the Chapel.

9:00 – Bible Study – AEC

9:00 – Youth Council meeting.

9:30 – Middle School Acolyte training- Sanct.

9:30 – Chancel Choir rehearsal – MR.

9:30 – 12:30 – Childcare – Toddler Room.

10:00 a.m. – Worship in the Sanctuary

10:00 – Sunday School after Children's Time.

11:15 – Coffee Fellowship – Jordan Hall & Patio.

11:30 – Youth Bells, open to 6–12 graders. Sanct.

11:30 – Carol Choir– grades 2-6 – Activity Center.

Sunday Funday is tentatively scheduled to go skating after church.

4:30 p.m. – Youth Choir, 6–12 graders. MR.

5:00 – Blessing of the Animals in the Courtyard.
All are invited to bring their pets to be blessed by our pastors in the church courtyard! Invite your friends and neighbors to this fun, family event!

6:00 – Youth Choir Dinner – (bring \$3) - JH.

6:30 – UMYF - Open to all 6th – 12th graders.
Game night - bring your favorite board game.

8:00 – KNIGHTS - game night to-knight also.

Among the Church Family

The memorial service for **Don Johnson** is **Saturday, October 4, at 10 a.m.** in our Sanctuary.

A Celebration of Life for **John Halberstadt** will be held on Saturday, October 18, at 2:00 p.m., in the Main Clubhouse Rancho California RV Resort. For more information contact **Bart Halberstadt** at 626-664-9144.

Congratulations to **Annika Lile** who was selected as one of three Youth Representatives to the Sierra Service Project Board of Directors for this upcoming year!

President's Volunteer Service Awards

We have 10 youth who qualify for the President's 2013-2014 Volunteer Service Awards. The criteria: Bronze Award 100-174 hours; Silver Award 175-249 hours; Gold Award 250 hours or more. The Award winners are: **Samuel Garcia** – Silver Award (215 hours); **Sarah Garcia** – Bronze Award (133 hours); **Annika Lile** – Gold Award (255 hours); **Emily Renfrew** – Silver Award (213 hours); **Sarah Reynolds** – Gold Award (326 hours); **Ella Rushing** – Gold Award (281 hours); **Connor Sams** – Silver Award (177 hours); **Madison Sams** – Gold Award (257 hours); **Stephanie Shen** – Gold Award (260 hours); **Greg Van Kirk** – Silver Award (206 hours). Congratulations to our winners! It is now time to sign up for the 2014-2015 awards!

Finance Presentation after Church on October 12

On Sunday, October 12, in Jordan Hall after the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, there will be a special Finance Presentation recasting the current year's budget for the remainder of the year. All are encouraged to attend.

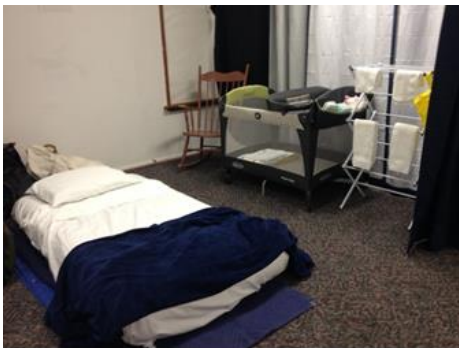
Conversation with the Pastor

On **Sundays, October 12 and 19**, we will be having the **Conversation with the Pastor** immediately after the 10:00 a.m. Worship Services. These two one hour conversations are updated versions of our former New Member Classes. They are designed to lead one to a deeper commitment through Christ by becoming a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd. Child care will be provided. We will be welcoming our newest members on Sunday, October 26, 2014. Please be present to guide and uphold our new sisters and brothers as we continue to celebrate the growth of our mission and ministry in this region.

FLU SHOTS – October 26

Thanks to the Health Ministries program at Methodist Hospital, CGS will be offering free flu shots to anyone age 9 years and older, on Sunday, October 26th, 9 AM - noon in the Lounge. Requests for sign-ups will start in a couple of weeks. If you are a nurse, or know of a nurse who would like to assist us that morning, please email Margaret Blair at kdblair@earthlink.net.

Family Promise – First Visit Report



Sunday, September 21st, welcomed the arrival of three families from Family Promise. The group consisted of 3-mothers and 4-children, ranging from 5-months to 8-years of age. Our volunteers warmly greeted our family members and assisted them with carrying their belongings with them to their sleeping quarters upstairs in the Youth Game Room in Wesley Hall.

It struck me as I was assisting another volunteer to carry a large plastic trash bag upstairs to the sleeping quarters that this single bag represented the entire worldly belongings for just one family!

In short order, our volunteers assisted each mother to convert a 10-foot square “sleeping module” into a personalized living space for one week.

Our families enjoy a home cooked dinner each night and a light breakfast in the morning at 6 am before heading to work, school, or training at the Family Promise Headquarters. Breakfast can certainly be a time of mutual blessing!

On Monday night, we received an urgent call from Karen Roberson, Director of Family Promise, asking if we could take in another mother with two children. No problem, our volunteer set team installed the drapes on our 4th sleeping module, set up the air mattresses, and made the beds.

All of this support would not be possible without the large number of Good Shepherd volunteers, doing set-up, cooking meals, serving as evening hosts, and sleeping nearby our families in case they need our help. This is what “mission” to the “least of these” is all about. We are very blessed to be able to serve.

If you did not have the opportunity to volunteer for our first Family Promise visit, there will be four more opportunities during 2015 where Good Shepherd is the host church for Family Promise.

-David Steinmeier, Family Promise Communications Coordinator



Three New Studies to Begin this Month!

The month of October brings three exciting new learning opportunities to Church of the Good Shepherd. All will meet on Sunday evenings at 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Beginning on October 12, the **Parenting Group**, led by Elsa Cordero Wood, will meet to discuss and learn parenting skills. One topic is the stages of the brain of 12-24 year olds. Parents and grandparents of children of all ages are invited to come to the Parenting Group which will meet in the Lounge off Jordan Hall on 10/12, 10/26, 11/9 and 11/16. Questions? Contact Elsa at: elcw25@gmail.com or 626-355-9135.

Join Pastor Phil in the Adult Education Center (AEC) on Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:00 for a 6 week study of the novel, **"People of the Book"** by Geraldine Brooks. The study begins on Sunday, October 12, and ends on Sunday, November 16, 2014. This book is available at bookstores and on Amazon.com.

Pastor Joshua invites us explore the foundations of our Christian tradition, grow together in our faith in Christ, and encourage each other in community. In **"Revival,"** Adam Hamilton uses his captivating storytelling talent to take us on a **six-week journey** through England tracing the life of John Wesley. Today we find ourselves in a world much like Wesley's – polarized, where faith seems to falter, and the gap between rich and poor widens. Many of us have a faith in need of revival. Wesley's message and his faith continue to speak to 21st century Christians, calling for a revival of our hearts and souls so that our world might be changed. His story is our story. It's our heritage, it defines our faith, and it challenges us to rediscover our spiritual passion. Prior to the study, Pastor Joshua will spend a week at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection where Adam Hamilton is the Senior Pastor as a participant in the Young Pastors Network. The dates of this study: 10/26; 11/2; 11/9; 11/16; 11/23; 11/30. This book is available through Cokesbury.com or Amazon.com.

"Fill the Bowl Project"

Fill the Bowl Project is part of The Humane Society of the United States' Animal Protection Ministries program. Every year, thousands of churches across the county donate food to local food pantries and other programs that help fight hunger. Pets are a vital part of our community but are often overlooked in times of need. Through the Fill the Bowl Project, faith communities can help by collecting new, unopened cans and bags of pet food (dog and cat). One simple donation provides food for a pet and peace of mind for an owner. Donations will be collected from October 1 to November 23, 2014. Look for the Fill the Bowl Project bins outside the Children's Center Office.

Club 21 Walkathon

On Saturday, Oct. 25th at 10:00AM we will be doing the walkathon for Club 21. You will need to register yourself at www.clubtwentyone.org Please register as a volunteer, set for yourself a fundraising goal, and join team "Bulgin's Bunch". If you are unable to walk, please feel free to donate to one of the youth that will be walking. Any amount helps!

This Week's Message

Have you ever felt foolish because you did something out of your comfort zone? The feeling of foolishness is something we prefer to avoid. We do not want to look ridiculous in front of other people. Perhaps, in instances of loving God, neighbor and self, our foolishness is not such a bad thing.

In Matthew's gospel we read a parable about a vineyard owner who foolishly sends his business associates to collect the harvest from the wicked tenants. But, each time the owner sends somebody it doesn't go as planned. In a way this is like God's love for us – foolishly in pursuit of us even though we find ourselves distracted by other things. The love of God is radically inclusive, graciously loving, and ever-present. What is required of us then is our response to God.

So, this weekend we ask the question: "What's this foolishness!?"

Joshua

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*open hearts,
open minds,
open doors*

Upcoming Events:

October 5-November 23 – 2015 Finance Campaign.

All the month of October and into November (thru the 23rd), we will be collecting new, unopened cans and bags of dog and cat food for the Humane Society's "Fill the Bowl Project." Place your donations in the bins outside the Children's Center Office.

October 5 – Blessing of the Animals in the church courtyard at 5:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to bring their pets to be blessed by our Pastors!

October 12 and 19 – Conversation with the Pastor (updated version of the New Member Class) at 11:30 a.m.

October 12 – Parenting Group led by Elsa Wood, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Lounge.

October 12 – Book Study led by Pastor Phil, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the AEC begins.

October 17-19 – Fall Women's Retreat at Aldersgate Retreat Center.

October 25 – Walkathon for Club 21.

October 26 – New Members received during Worship Services.

October 26 – Flu Shots in the Lounge, 9:00 a.m. to noon.

October 26 – Book Study led by Pastor Joshua, 6:30-8:00 p.m. in the Library begins.